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Stamler et al.

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(54) **RED BLOOD CELLS LOADED WITH
S-NITROSOTHIOL AND USES THEREFOR**

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application No. 08/616,255, filed on Mar. 15, 1996.

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435/372**

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

Red blood cells can be loaded with low molecular weight
nitrosylating agents, such as S-nitrosothiols, to act as a
delivery system for NO⁺ groups to tissues. Loaded red blood
cells can be used in methods of therapy for conditions which
are characterized by abnormal O₂ metabolism of tissues,
oxygen-related toxicity, abnormal vascular tone, abnormal
red blood cell adhesion, or abnormal O₂ delivery by red
blood cells.

11 Claims, 15 Drawing Sheets